

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of) Examiner: Not yet assigned
A. Kokish) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned
For: **BALLOON WITH THE VARIABLE**)
RADIAL FORCE DISTRIBUTION)
Serial No.: Not yet assigned)
Filed: Concurrently) **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**
Docket No.: 9600.5891)

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Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please preliminarily amend the above-referenced application as indicated below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-20, without prejudice.

Please add new claims 21-24.

21. A balloon catheter, comprising:

a) a catheter shaft having a proximal end, a distal end, and at least one lumen; and

b) a balloon having a central working section with a proximal end and a distal end, and having proximal and distal end portions which extend inwardly with respect to the working section, the central working section and the proximal and distal end portions defining an interior chamber which inflates to an inflated

configuration, and having proximal and distal secured sections which are secured to the catheter shaft and located at positions on the shaft which are between the proximal end and the distal end of the central working section of the balloon in the inflated configuration.

22. The balloon catheter of claim 21 wherein an angle between the central working section and the proximal and distal end portions is about 5 degrees to about 90 degrees.

23. The balloon catheter of claim 21 wherein an angle between the central working section and the proximal and distal end portions is about 30 degrees to about 50 degrees.

24. A catheter balloon, comprising:

a) proximal and distal secured sections securely sealing the catheter balloon to a catheter shaft proximate proximal and distal ends of the balloon, and extending parallel with and overlapped by an inflatable section of the balloon;

b) a centermost balloon section, a portion of which extends over the secured sections of the balloon when deflated; and

c) proximal and distal cone sections connecting each end of the centermost section of the catheter balloon to the secured sections of the balloon, wherein the balloon includes a conical angle as defined by the interior angle formed between the centermost section and the cone sections of the catheter balloon when inflated that is 90 degrees or less.

REMARKS

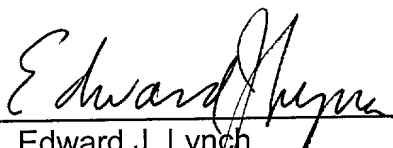
Claims 21-24 are pending.

Claim 24 is a substantial copy of claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,221,042 (Adams).

Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the pending claims.

Respectfully submitted,

By: _____


Edward J. Lynch
Registration No. 24,422

Customer No.: 23,422

Coudert Brothers LLP
600 Beach Street, 3rd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94109-1312
Contact: Priscilla Mark
Registration No.: 41.970
Direct Dial: (573) 364-6499
Facsimile: (415) 409-7400